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OO RUEHCHI RUEHCN RUEHDT RUEHHM  
DE RUEHML #0716 0790940  
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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0206  
INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS IMMEDIATE  
RUEHG/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 2214  
RHHMUNA/CDRUSPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0263

UNCLAS MANILA 000716

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP/MTS  
DEPT ALSO FOR DRL/MLGA (PAZ)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PHUM PREL RP DPRK

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON UN HUMAN RIGHTS RAPPORTEUR:  
PHILIPPINES REVIEWING COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PRACTICES

REF: A. STATE 27281

¶B. 2007 MANILA 3710

¶1. (SBU) Human Rights Division Director Josephine Reynante of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Office for United Nations and International Organizations (UNIO) told poloff March 17 that the DFA is currently reviewing its practice of supporting exceptional country-specific resolutions. As a general rule the Philippines does not support country-specific resolutions (ref B). After listening to points about the important role that the Philippines plays on the UN Human Rights Council as a leader among Southeast Asian democracies (ref A), Reynante said the Philippine position supporting the Special Rapporteur for the human rights situation in North Korea had not changed. Reynante framed that support, however, as being based on the June 2007 "compromise package," which included rapporteurs for other countries (excluding Cuba and Belarus) and, she carefully noted, had been adopted by consensus. Post will continue to follow up with the DFA on this issue.

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